Kahaualea

Island:

Hawaii

Size:

16,726 acres

Elevational range:

1,700 - 3,500 feet

Year established:

1987

Date surveyed:

December 1988

Description:

Kahaualea includes representatives of pioneer vegetation on lava flows, lowland rain forest and mesic forest in the Puna District. It includes the largest known populations of a federally endangered fern, *Adenophorus periens*, as well as the currently active flows of the Puu Oo vent.

Natural Communities:

6 total, none rare

RANK	NAME
3 3 3 3 3 3	'Ohi'a/Hapu'u Lowland Wet Forest 'Ohi'a/Hapu'u Montane Wet Forest 'Ohi'a Lowland Mesic Forest 'Ohi'a/Uluhe Lowland Wet Forest 'Ohi'a/Uluhe Montane Wet Forest Pioneer Vegetation on Lava
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Native Plants:

133 total taxa, 11 rare

Native Animals:

7 total taxa, 2 rare

Management Highlights:

Feral pigs and cattle are high priority management concerns. Public and staff hunting should be increased. Programs to control ungulates may include enhanced access via new trails, and fencing around key management areas. Stepped up control of marijuana and prosecution of growers is recommended to allow hunters and the public safe access to the reserve. A maintained trail to Puu Oo is recommended. Target weeds include Clidemia, golden Himalayan raspberry, palm grass, Tibouchina, and strawberry guava. Systematic monitoring will be needed to assess needs and effectiveness of a pig and weed control program.